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ZANE GREY'S

10¢

NO. 8

KING

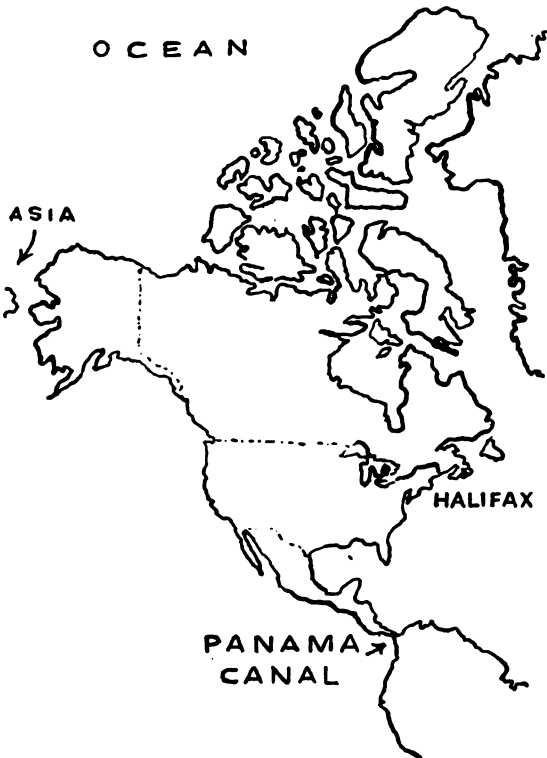
of the **ROYAL MOUNTED**



the Northwest Passage

ARCTIC

OCEAN



For centuries Spanish, French, Dutch and English explorers sought a way to travel from Europe to China and the Spice Islands by a Northwest Passage. Christopher Columbus found America because he was trying to reach Asia by sailing westward.

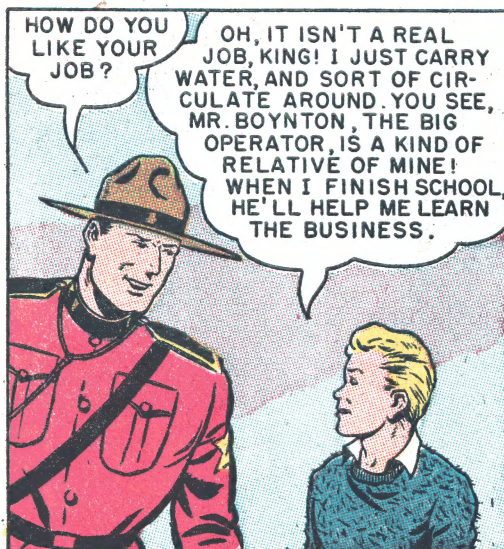
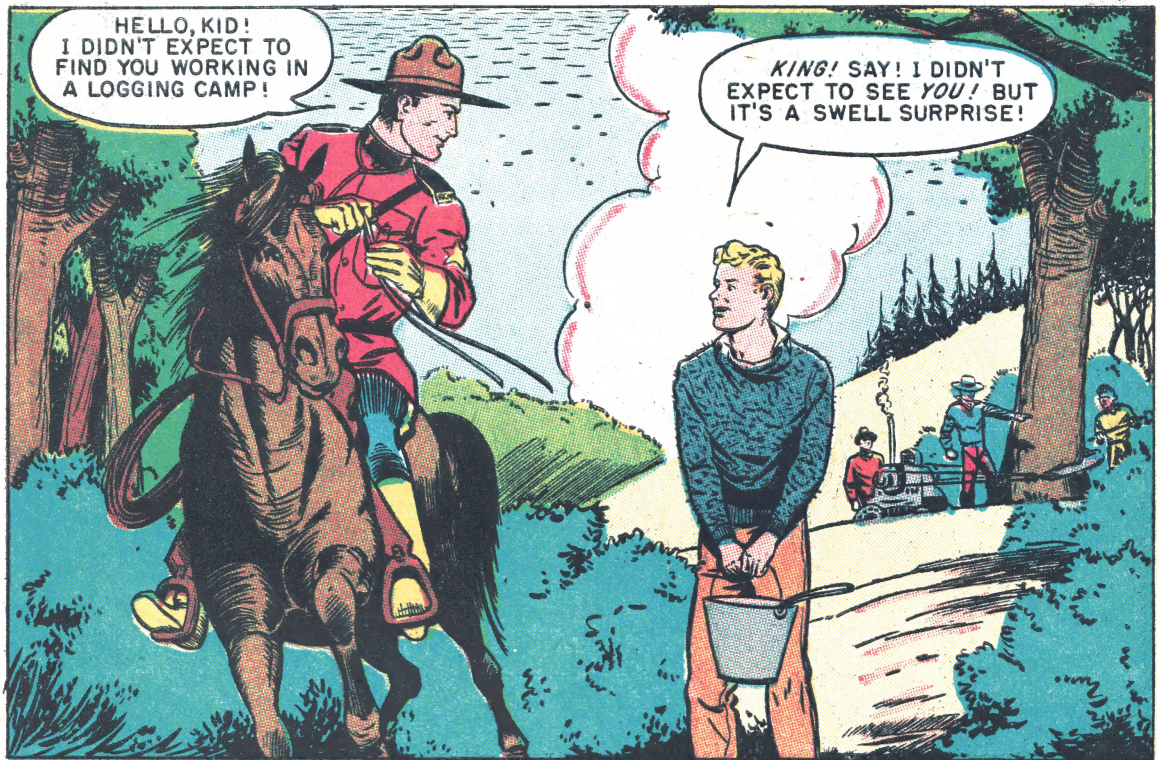
On May 29th, 1950 the Royal Canadian Northwest Mounted Police schooner *St. Roch* returned to Halifax after having sailed completely around North America. The *St. Roch* passed through the famous Northwest Passage that Hendrick Hudson thought he had found when he sailed up the Hudson River. It took the *St. Roch* 137 sailing days and she was the first ship ever to make the passage. Formerly, the general route had been explored by trappers, missionaries and policemen travelling on sleds over the ice. Not content with this, the *St. Roch* went on to sail around Alaska, down the West Coast, through the Panama Canal and up the East Coast to her home port—Halifax in Nova Scotia, Canada. The *St. Roch* was manned entirely by policemen of Canada's famous Force. She was built strongly with a rounded bottom to avoid the ice.

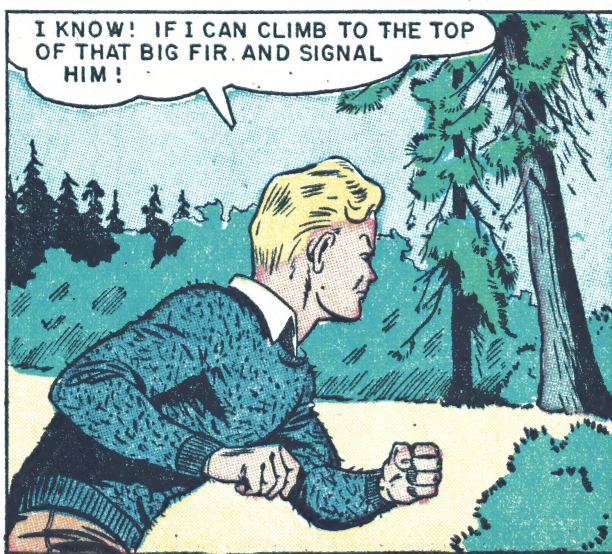
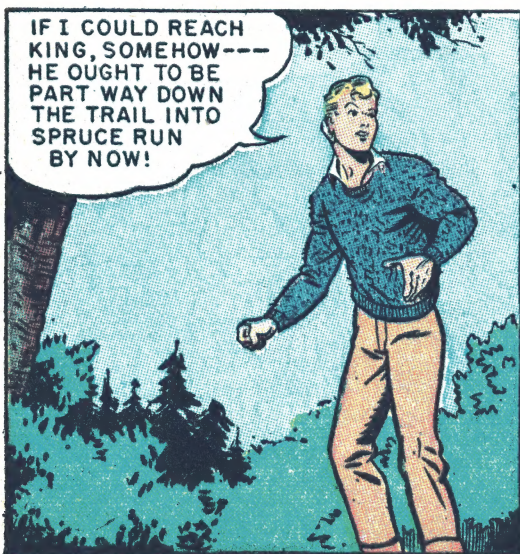
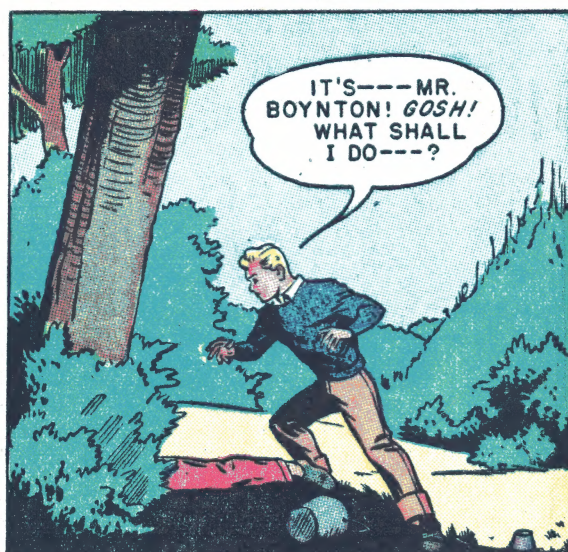
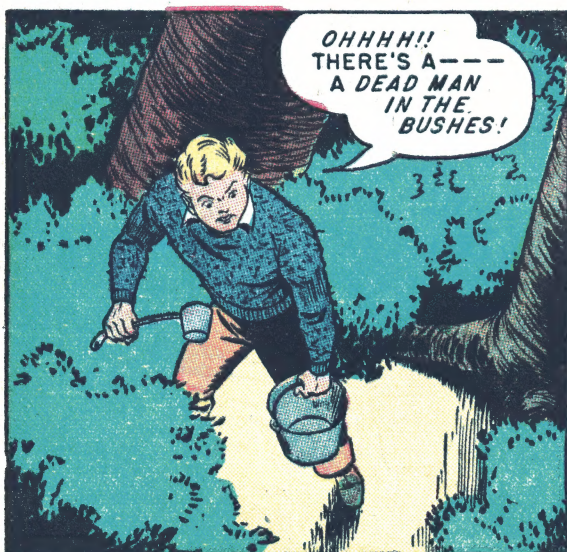
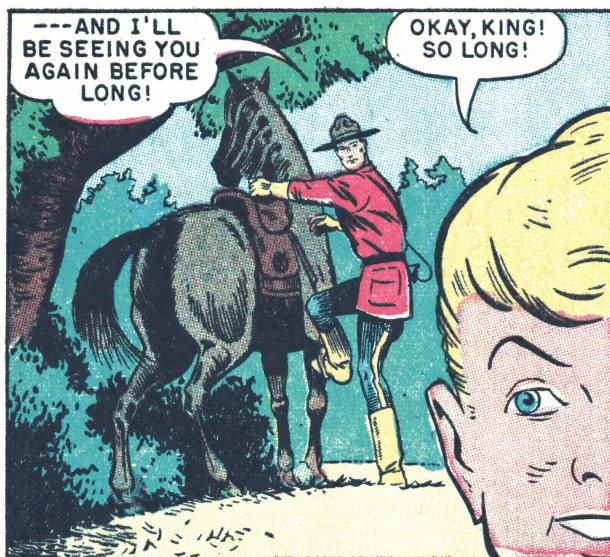
And it is important to remember that the *St. Roch* made the voyage, not for the mere glory of exploring the famous route but rather to deliver supplies to policemen along Canada's Arctic Coast.

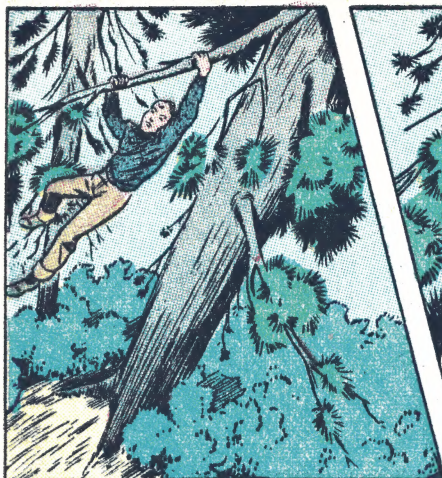


ZANE GREY'S KING OF THE ROYAL MOUNTED

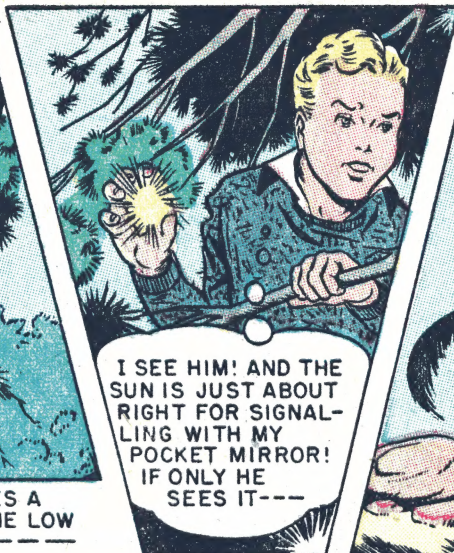
IN THE CASTLE IN THE FOREST





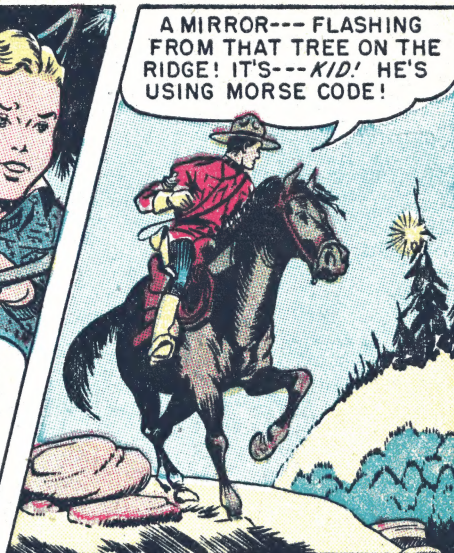


A DARING CLIMBER, KID USES A SMALLER TREE TO REACH THE LOW BRANCHES OF THE TALL FIR—



I SEE HIM! AND THE SUN IS JUST ABOUT RIGHT FOR SIGNALING WITH MY POCKET MIRROR! IF ONLY HE SEES IT---

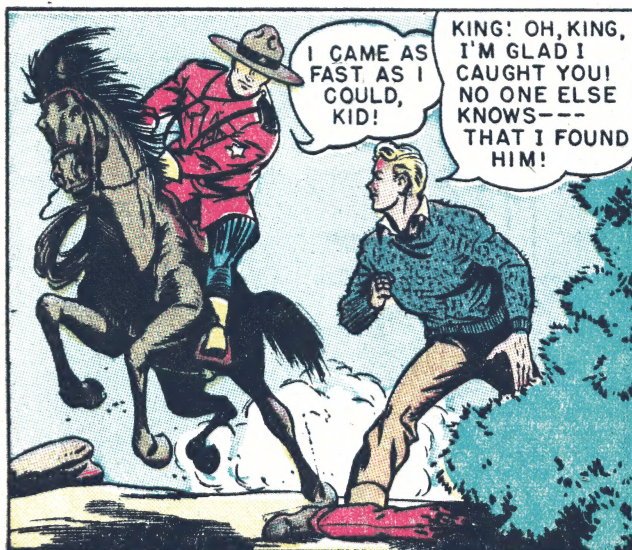
A MIRROR--- FLASHING FROM THAT TREE ON THE RIDGE! IT'S--- KID! HE'S USING MORSE CODE!



B-O-Y-N-T-O-N---
M-U-R-D-E-R-E-D
A-T--- L-I-T-T-L-E
S-P-R-I-N-G-



STRETCH YOURSELF, ROGUE! WE DON'T KNOW WHAT WE'LL FIND UP THERE!



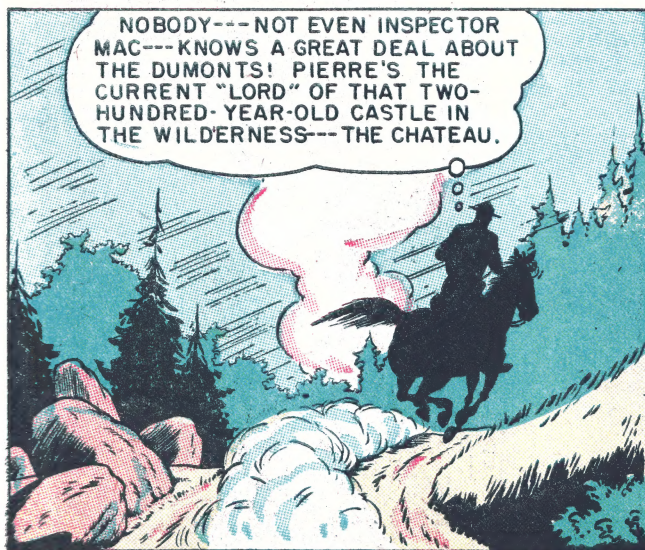
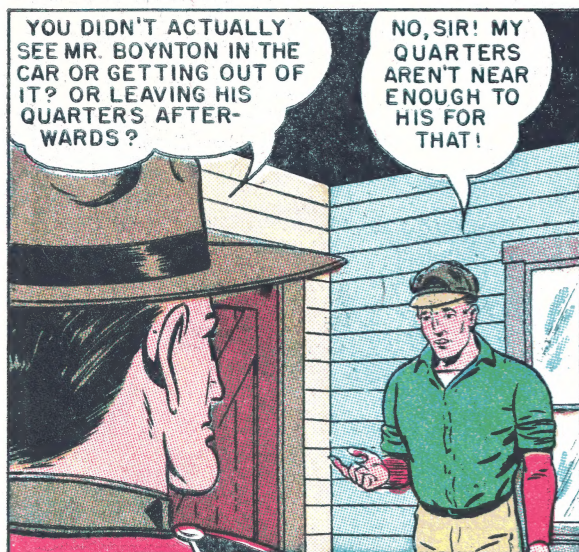
I CAME AS FAST AS I COULD, KID!

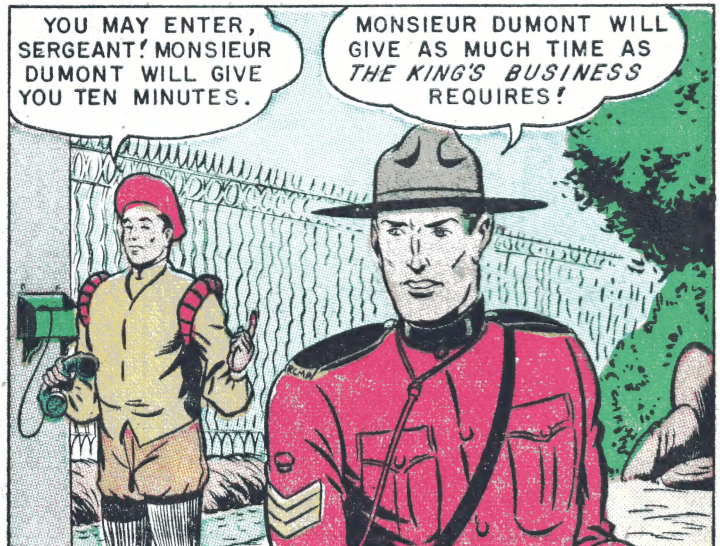
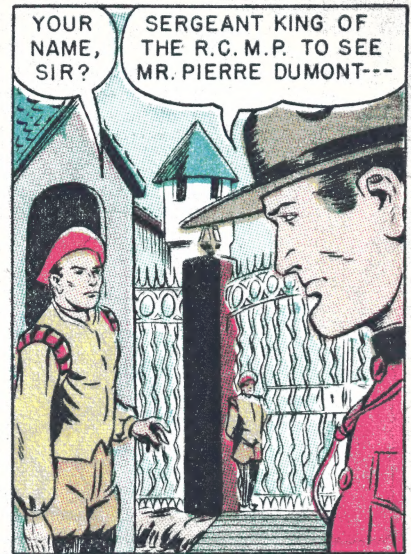
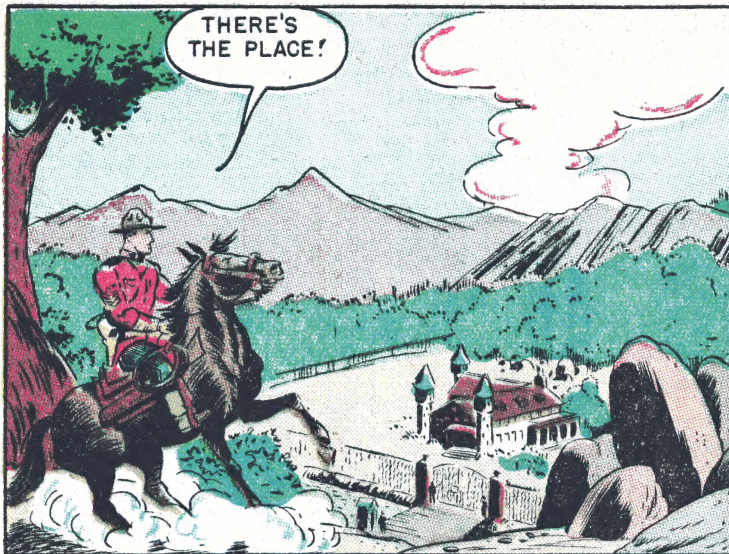
KING! OH, KING, I'M GLAD I CAUGHT YOU! NO ONE ELSE KNOWS--- THAT I FOUND HIM!

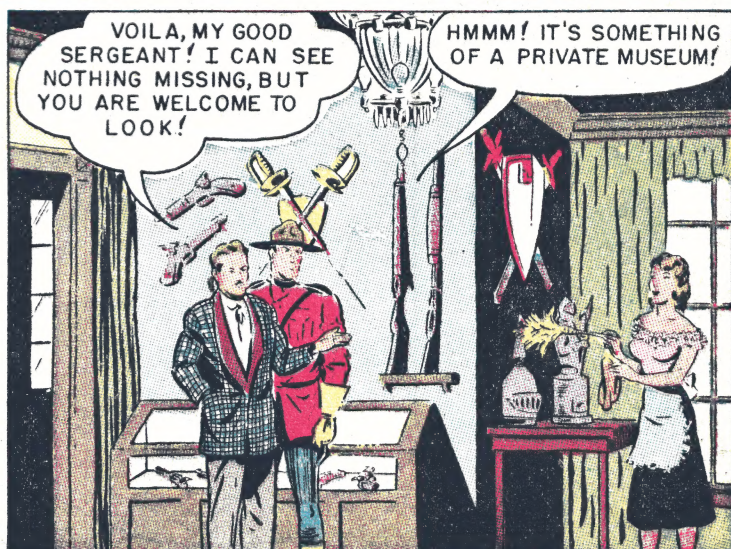
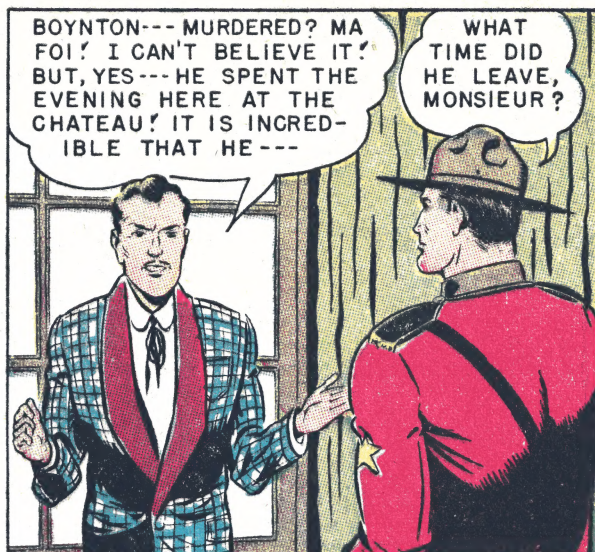
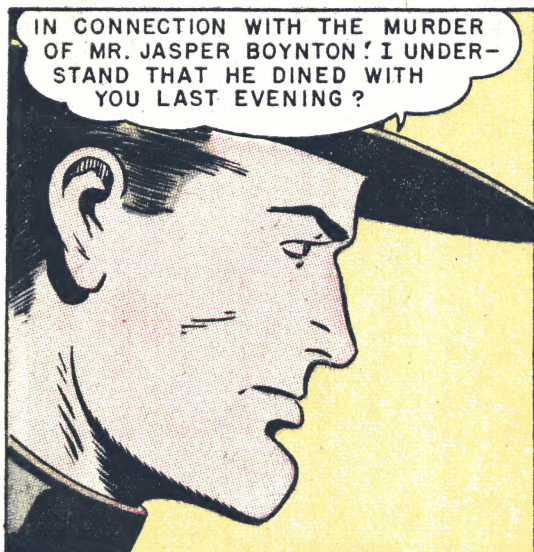


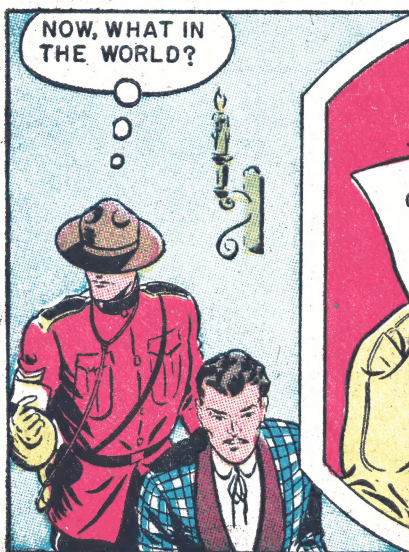
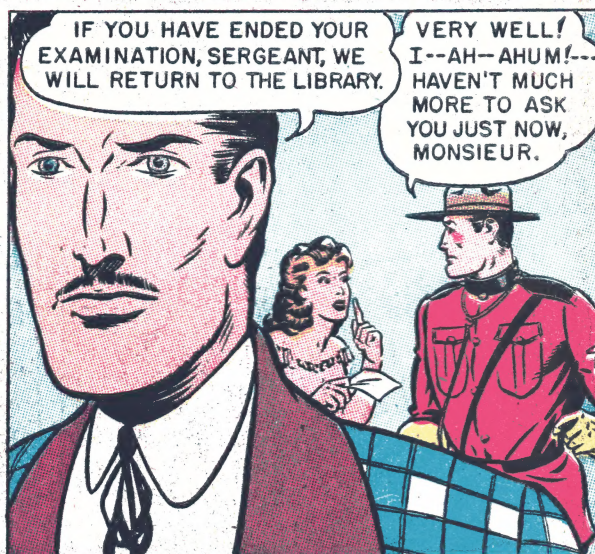
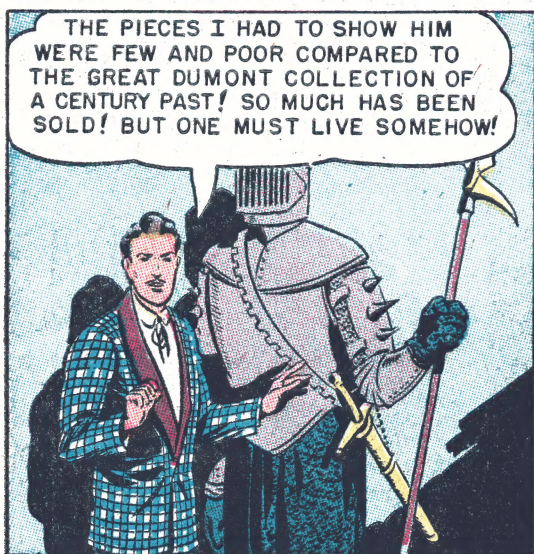
IT RAINED HARD AT ABOUT TWO O'CLOCK THIS MORNING--- SO ANY EARLIER TRACKS WOULD BE BLURRED OR WASHED OUT--- AND THERE AREN'T ANY FRESH ONES BUT YOURS, KID!

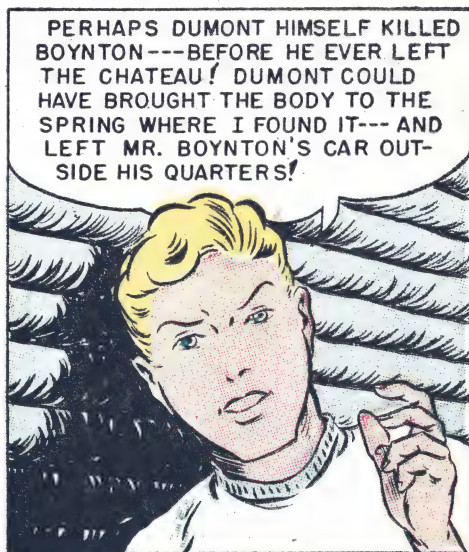
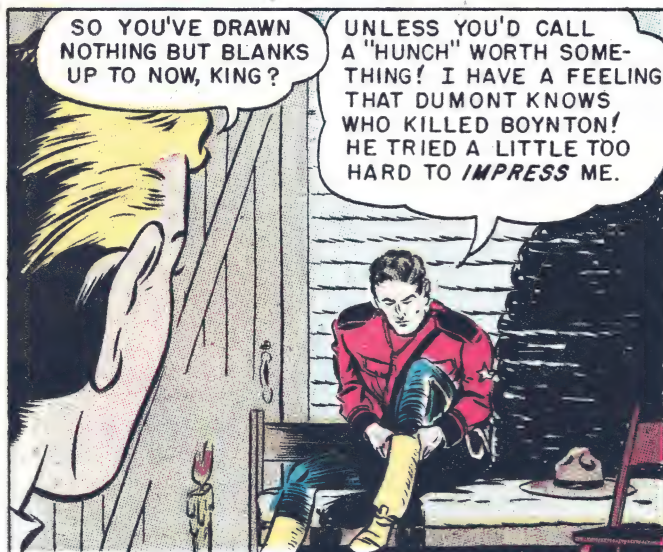
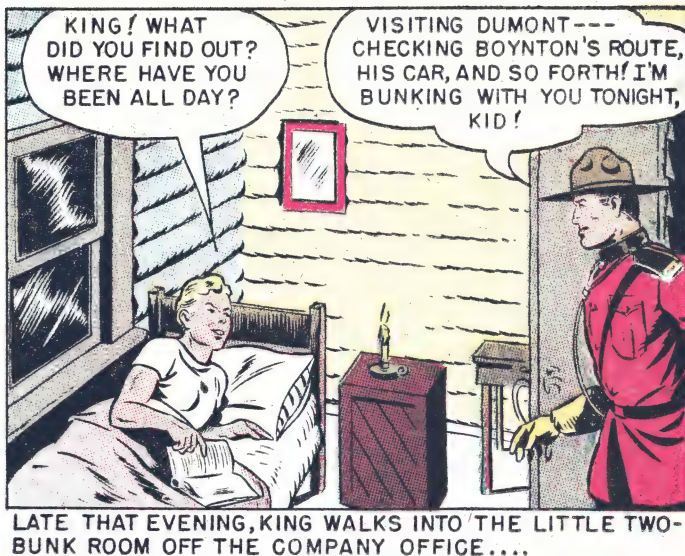


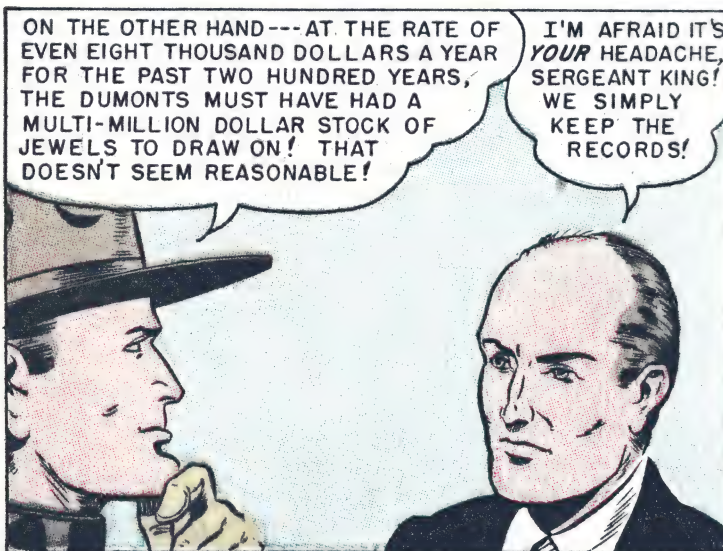
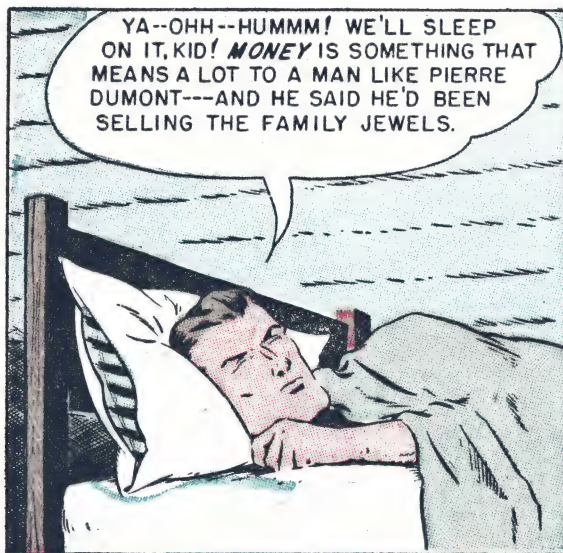


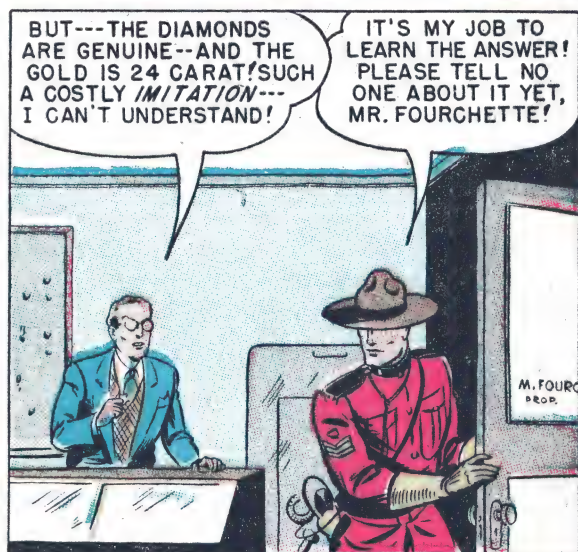
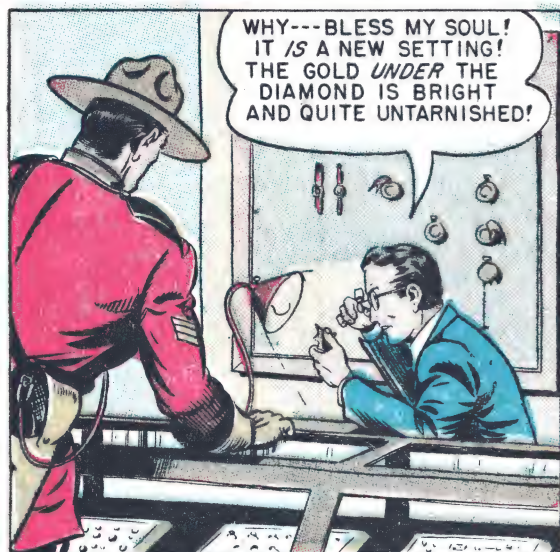


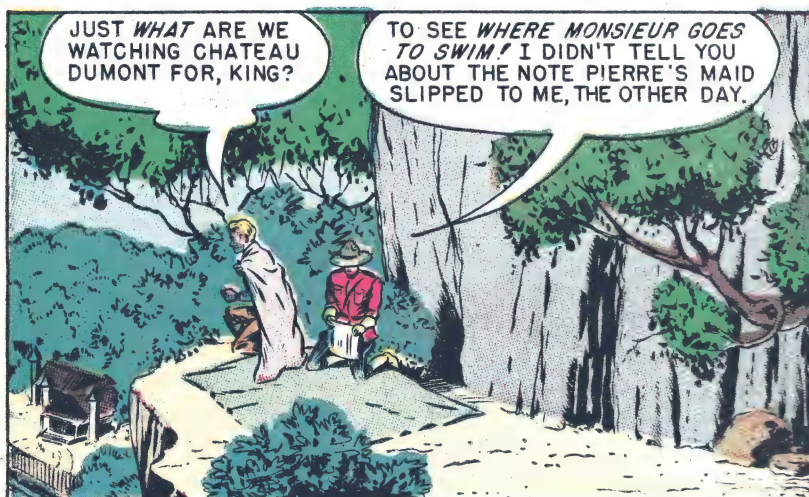
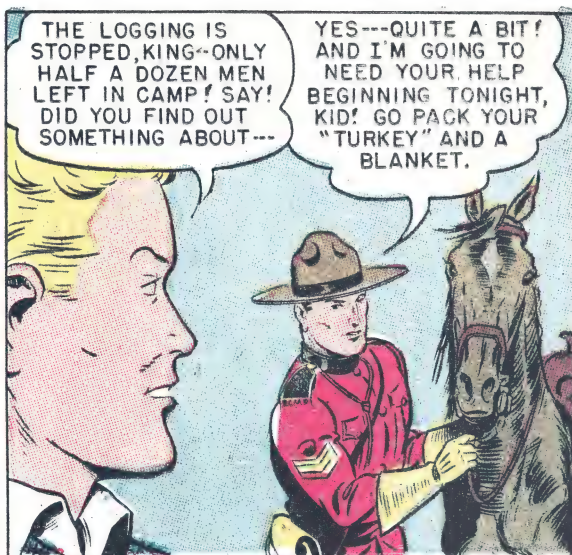
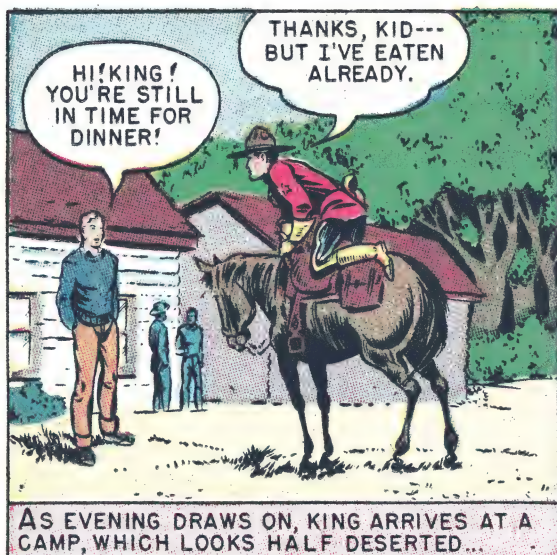




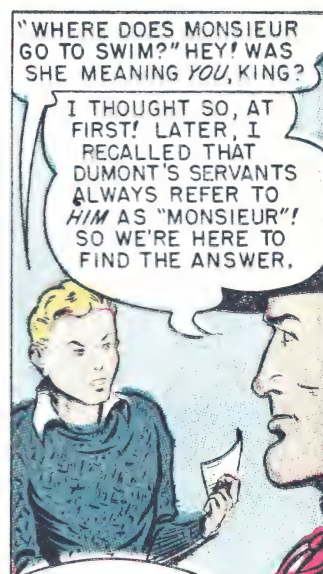




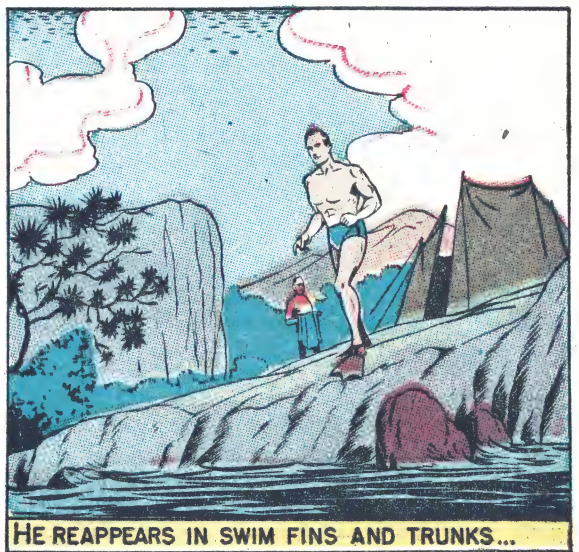
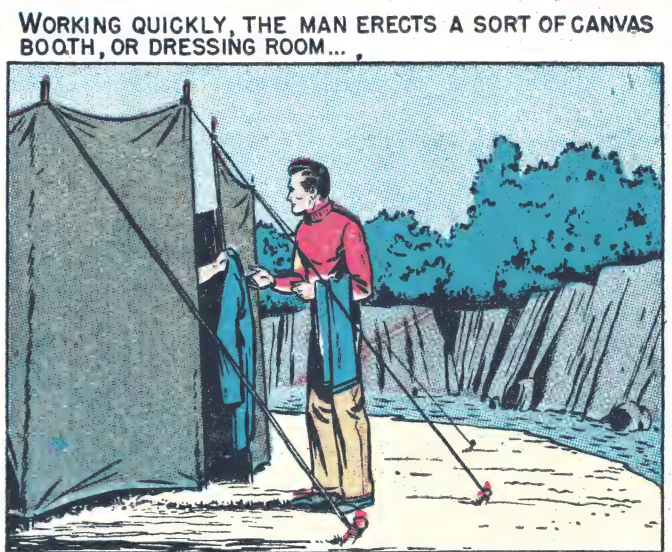
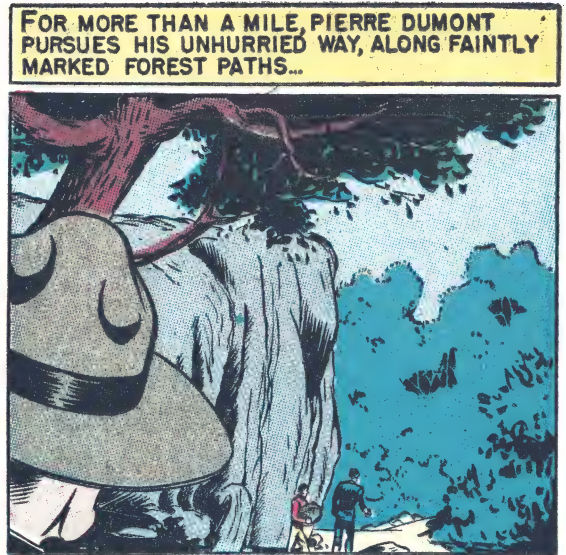




DAYBREAK FINDS KING AND KID MUNCHING A COLD BREAKFAST IN A
ROCKY NICHE OVERLOOKING THE CASTLE OF THE DUMONTS...

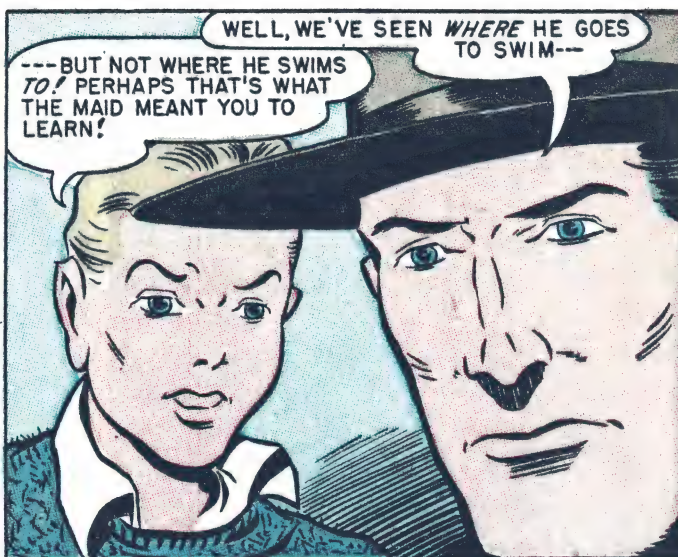


FOLLOWED BY A MANSERVANT, THE "LORD" OF
CHATEAU DUMONT SEEMS TO BE OUT FOR A
STROLL...





-- AND DIVES INTO THE DEEP-FLOWING STREAM.

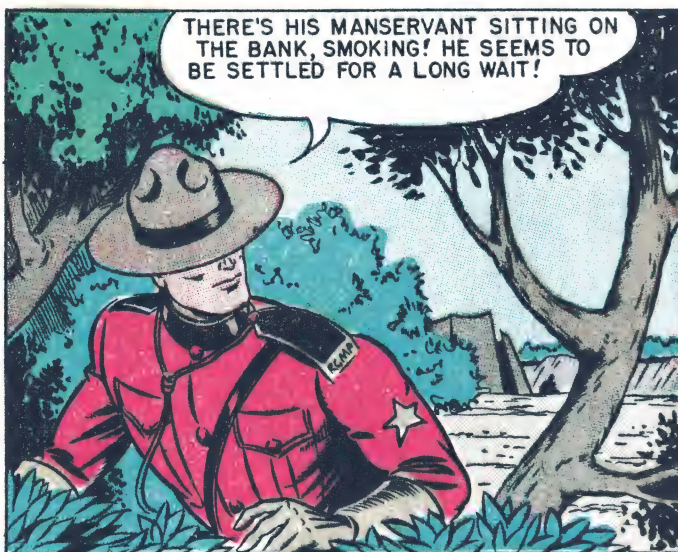


---BUT NOT WHERE HE SWIMS TO! PERHAPS THAT'S WHAT THE MAID MEANT YOU TO LEARN!

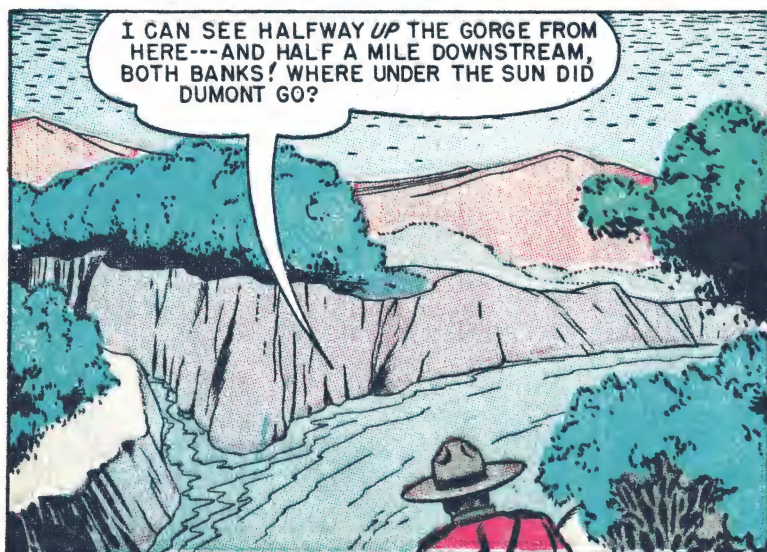
WELL, WE'VE SEEN WHERE HE GOES TO SWIM---



YOU TOOK THE WORDS OUT OF MY MOUTH, KID! WAIT HERE TILL I RETURN! DUMONT HAS SWUM OUT OF SIGHT DOWNSTREAM---INTO THAT LITTLE GORGE!



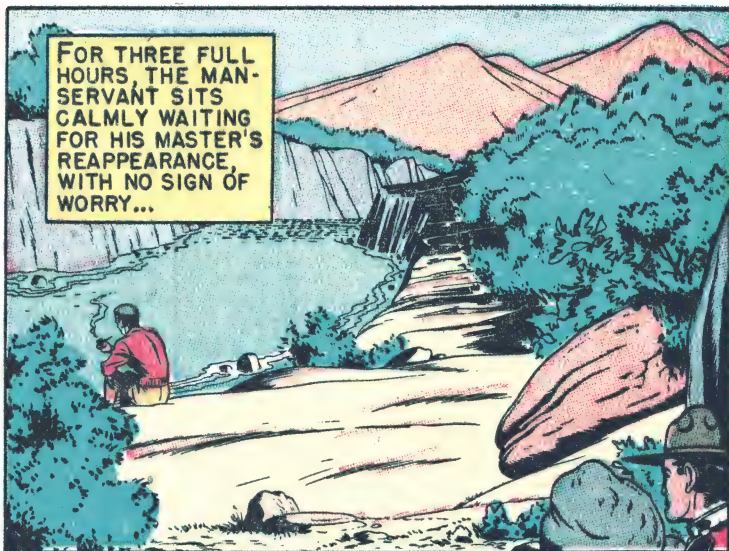
THERE'S HIS MANSERVANT SITTING ON THE BANK, SMOKING! HE SEEMS TO BE SETTLED FOR A LONG WAIT!



I CAN SEE HALFWAY UP THE GORGE FROM HERE---AND HALF A MILE DOWNSTREAM, BOTH BANKS! WHERE UNDER THE SUN DID DUMONT GO?

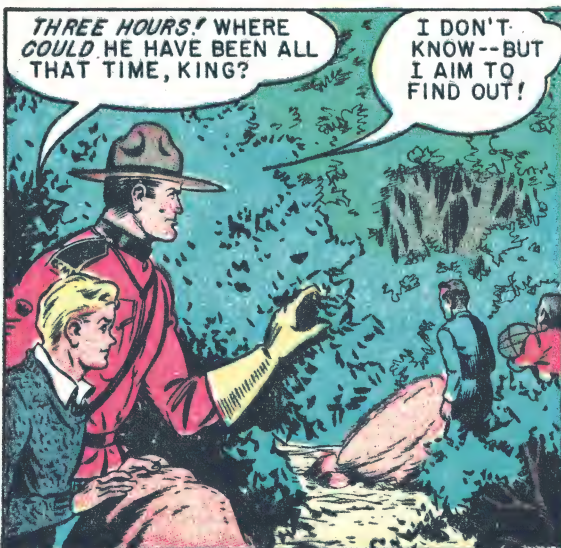
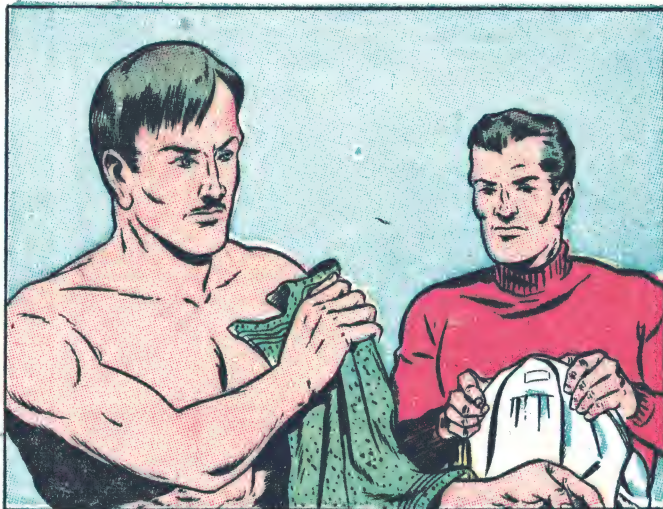


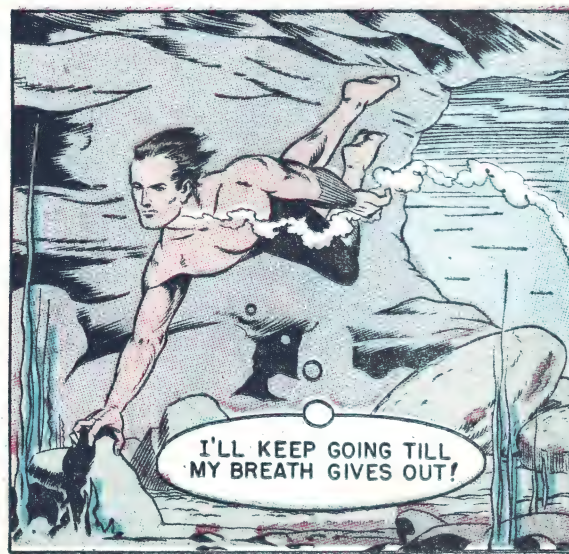
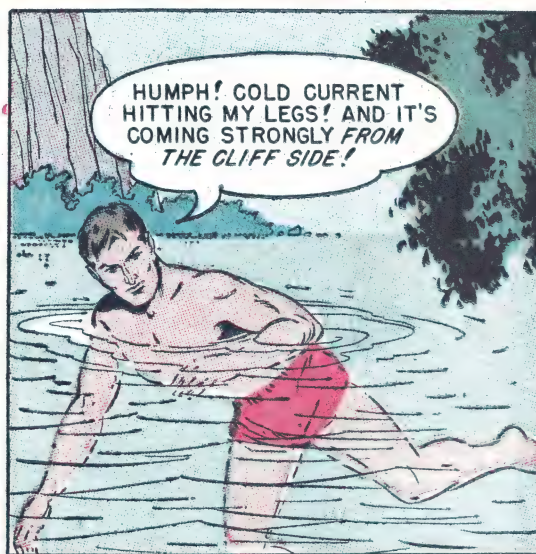
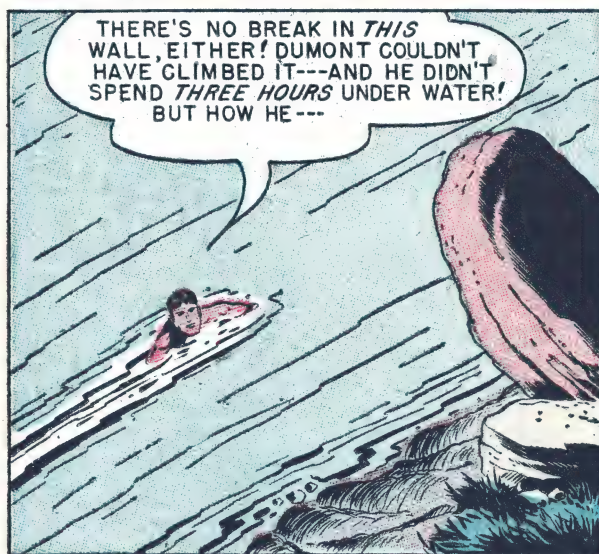
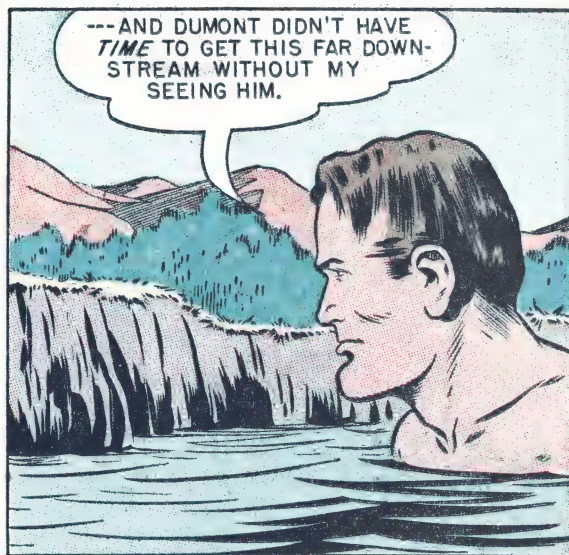
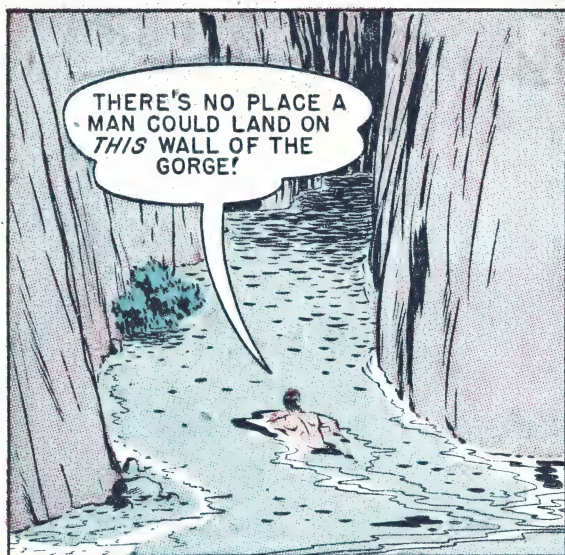
HE MUST HAVE TURNED BACK WHILE I WAS CIRCLING AROUND! HE'S PROBABLY THROUGH WITH HIS SWIM AND DRESSING, NOW...

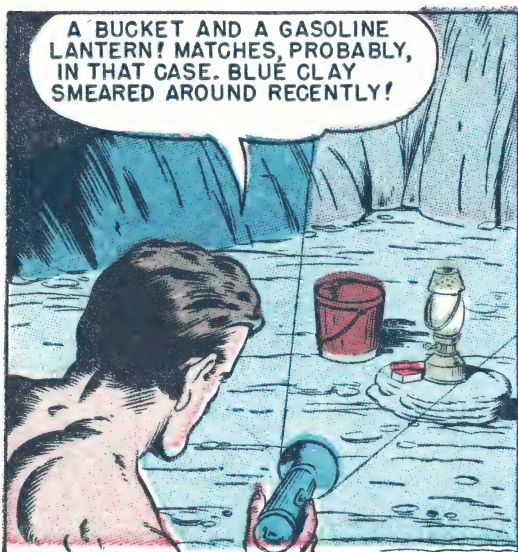
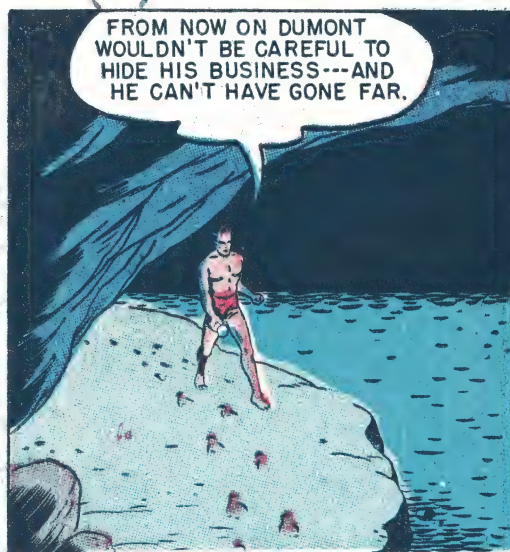
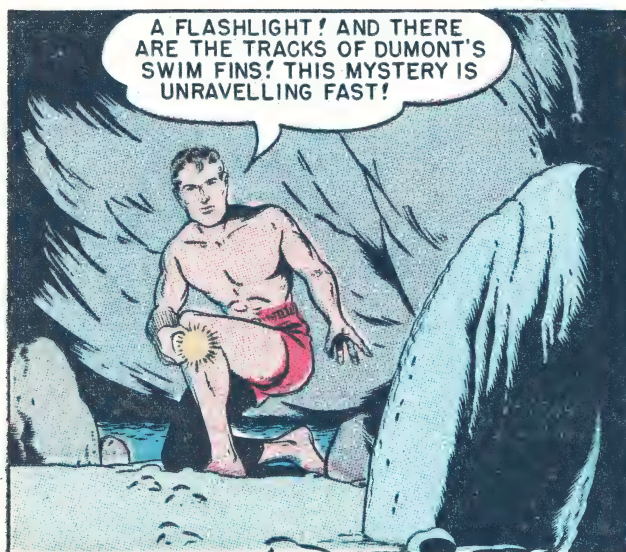
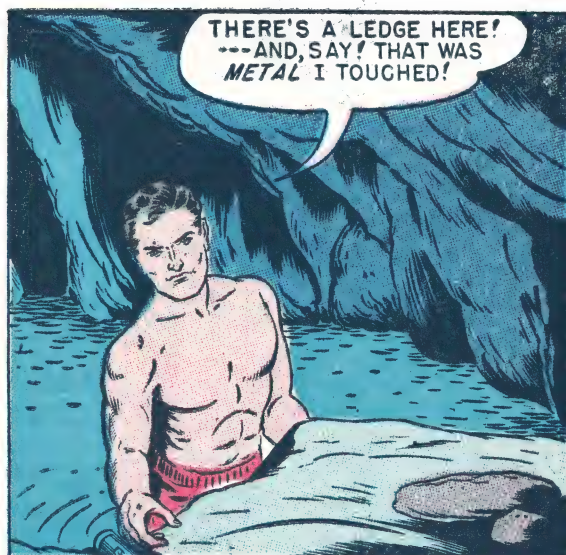


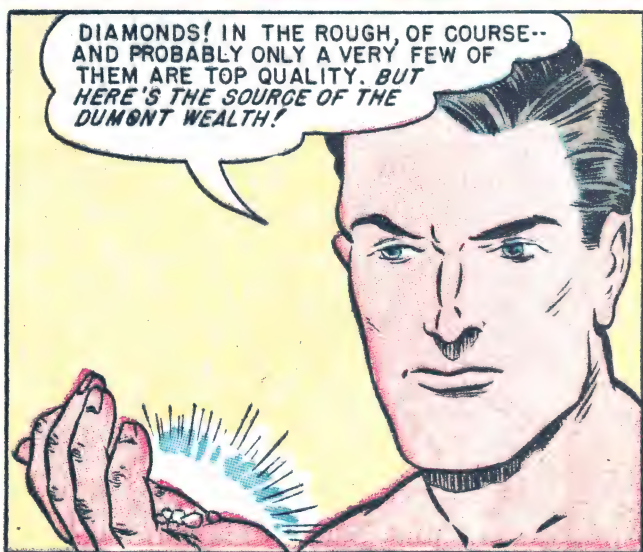
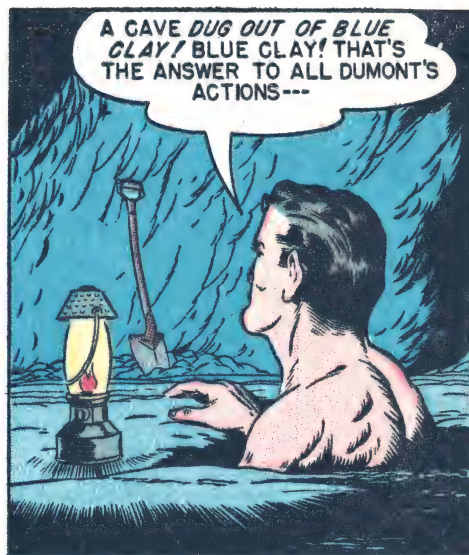
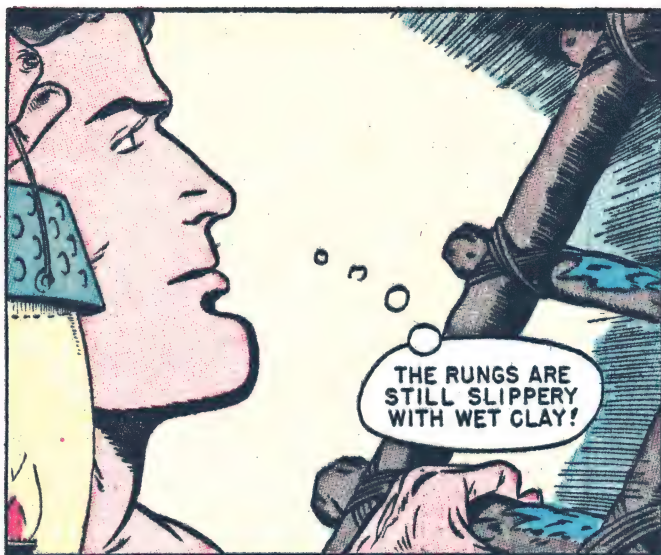
AT LONG LAST PIERRE DUMONT COMES IN SIGHT, SWIMMING POWERFULLY UP-STREAM TO THE LANDING...

WITH NOT A HINT OF WEARINESS, HE STEPS ASHORE...









THEY'VE WORKED THIS DIAMOND MINE FOR GENERATIONS, PASSING ON THE SECRET FROM FATHER TO SON! IT COULDN'T BE TIED IN WITH BOYNTON'S MURDER, THOUGH, UNLESS THERE'S AN ANGLE I HAVEN'T SEEN YET.

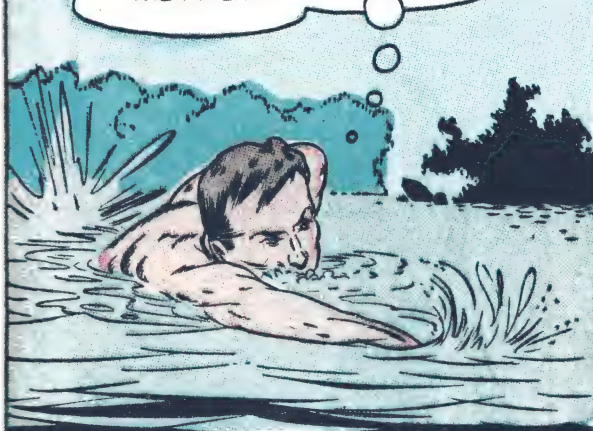


I'LL LEAVE DUMONT'S FLASHLIGHT HERE WHERE I FOUND IT---AND GET BACK TO KID.



SWIMMING WITH THE CURRENT, KING'S RETURN TRIP THROUGH THE BLACK TUNNEL IS SWIFT...

THAT UNDERWATER ENTRANCE MUST HAVE FIRST BEEN DISCOVERED AT LOW WATER--- AND IT MIGHTN'T HAPPEN AGAIN UNLESS--- A FOREST FIRE PARTLY DRIES UP THE RIVER---



THERE'S THE ANSWER! *BOYNTON'S LOGGING OPERATION WOULD HAVE LOWERED THE RIVER LEVEL, TOO!* DUMONT HAD TO PREVENT IT, AND THE SIMPLEST WAY WAS TO KILL BOYNTON! BUT THAT'S STILL ONLY THEORY---NOT PROOF!



HI, KING! COME OUT! WE HAVE COMPANY!

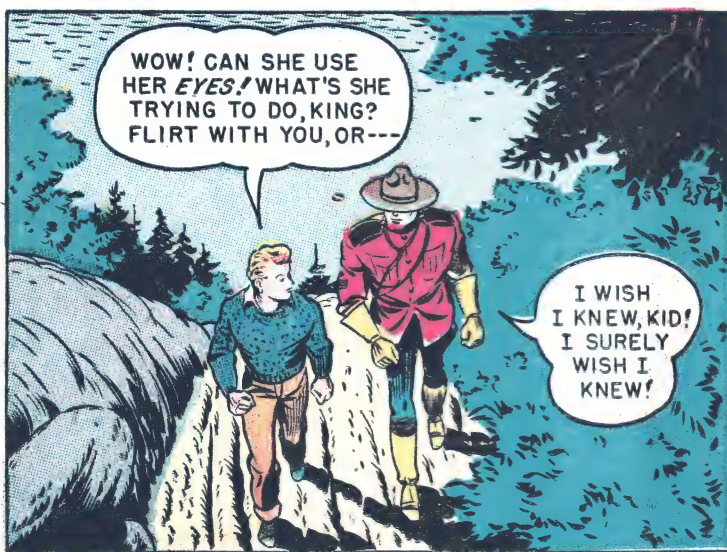
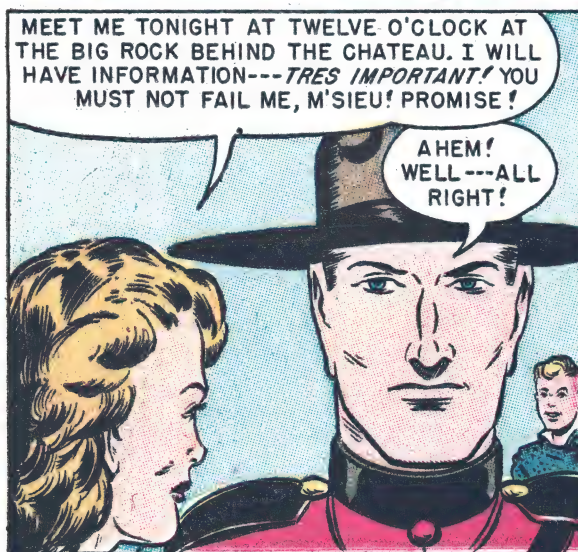
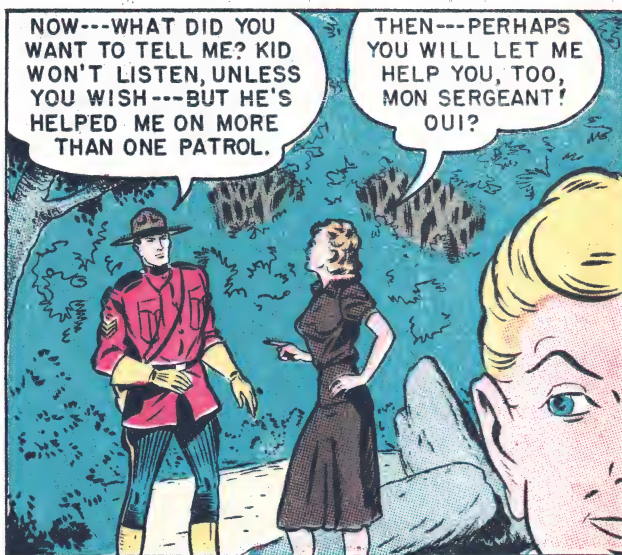
COMPANY! THAT LITTLE FRENCH MAID!



BON SOIR, M'SIEU KING! I HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED YOUR SWIM IN THIS BEAUTIFUL RIVER! MAY I SPEAK WITH YOU ONE WORD IN PRIVATE?

UH---ALL RIGHT--- AFTER I'VE DRESSED!





AT MIDNIGHT ---

THIS TIME WE CAN'T DISTURB THE PORTER--- WE'LL HAVE TO ENTER THE CHATEAU GROUNDS UNANNOUNCED.

THEN WE'LL HAVE TO CLIMB THE FENCE! BUT WHAT IF IT'S WIRED FOR BURGLAR ALARMS?

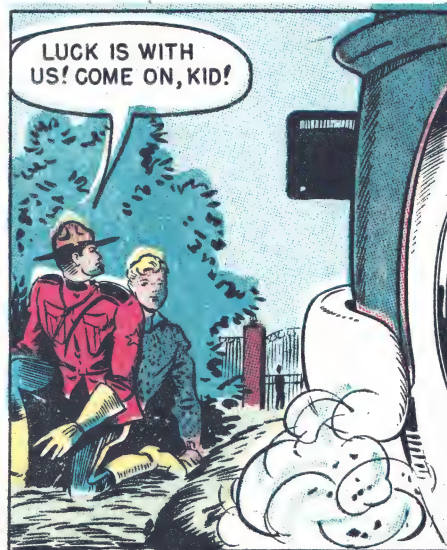
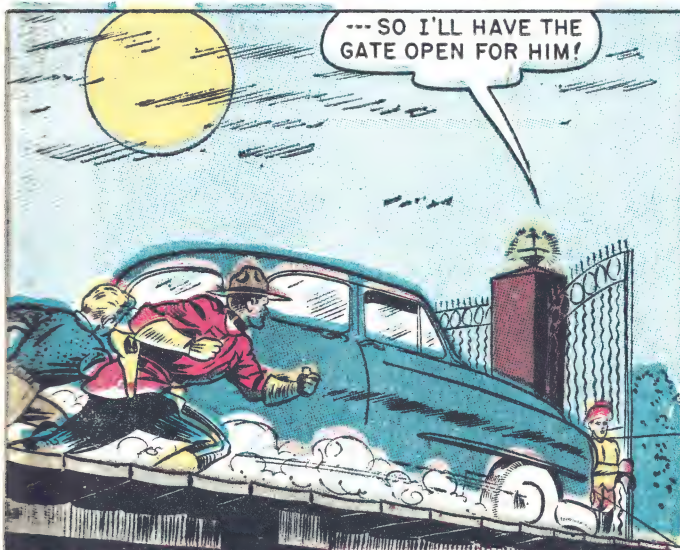
HERE COME A CAR'S HEAD-LIGHTS! IF THE GATE OPENS TO LET IT PASS, WE MAY BE ABLE TO SLIP IN UNNOTICED.

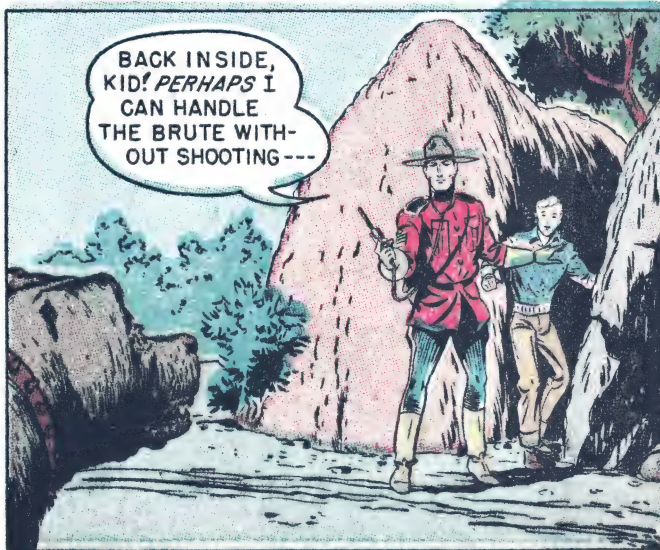
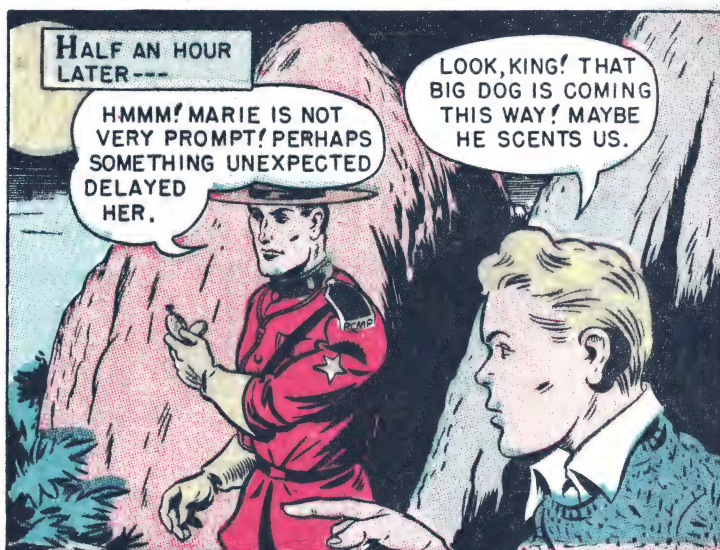
THAT'S MR. LOCKWOOD'S CAR! MONSIEUR DUMONT IS EXPECTING HIM---

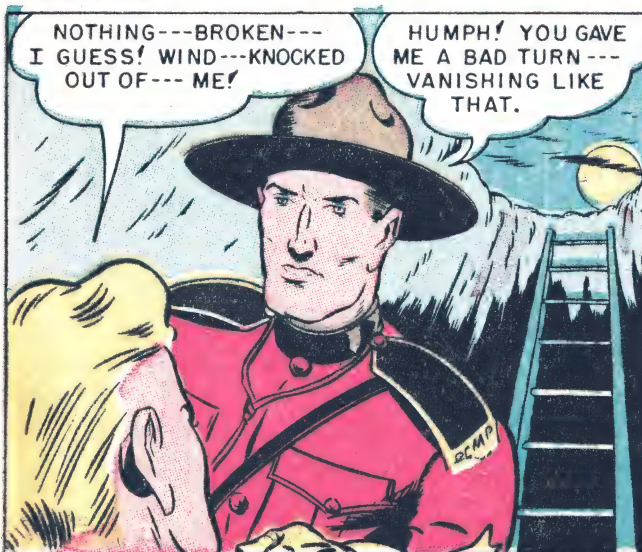
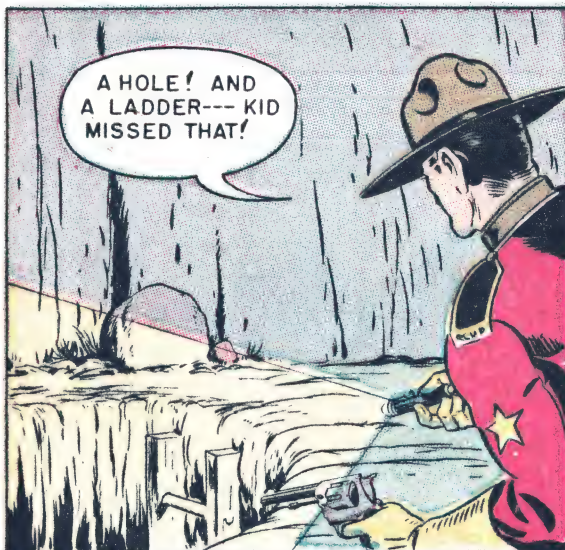
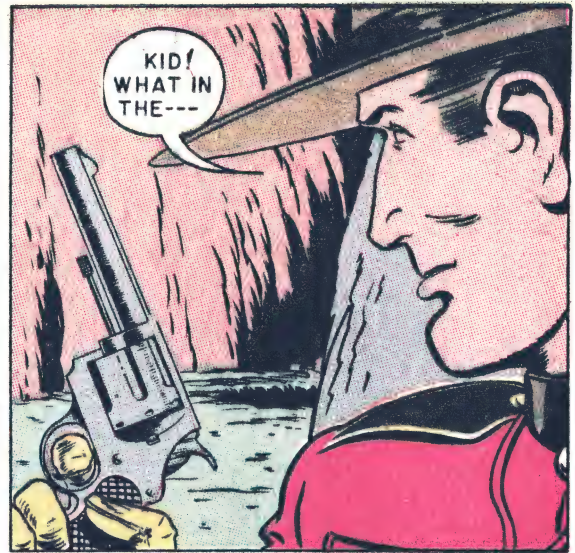
COME, KID--- INTO THIS SHADOW! WE'LL WATCH OUR CHANCE!

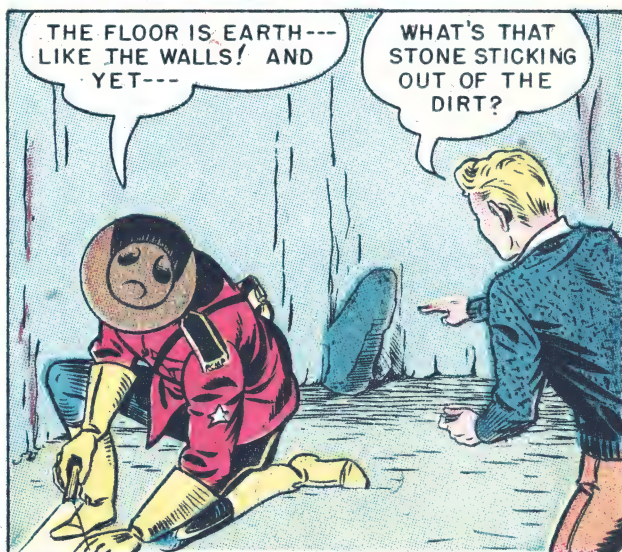
--- SO I'LL HAVE THE GATE OPEN FOR HIM!

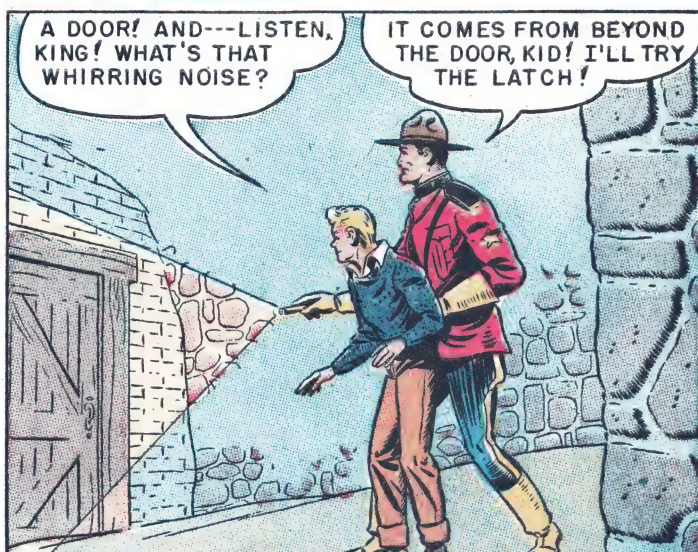
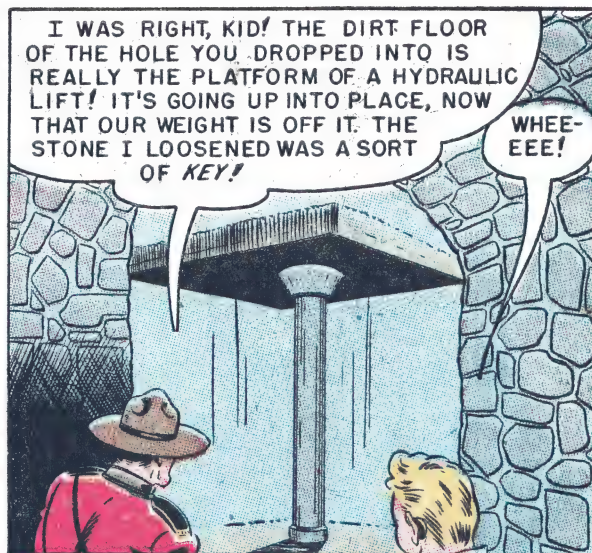
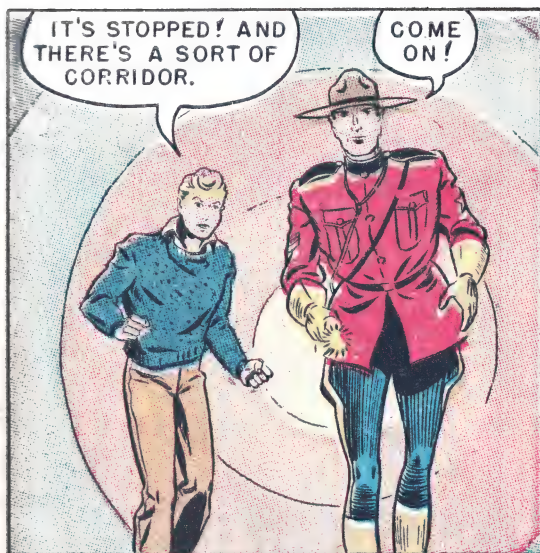
LUCK IS WITH US! COME ON, KID!











AT A WORKBENCH SITS PIERRE DUMONT, OPERATING A SMALL MACHINE, WHOSE WHIRR HAS DROWNED OUT THE FAINT SQUEAK OF THE DOOR BEHIND HIM...

